

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, 14, 17, 19, 22, 24-26, and 29. The Examiner has allowed claims 2 and 3 and has objected to claims 4, 12, 16, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30, and 31.

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 6, 7, 11, 14, 15, 18, 19, 24. Currently pending are claims 2-5, 8-10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 20-23, and 25-31 of which claims 3, 4, 16, 27 and 30 are independent claims.

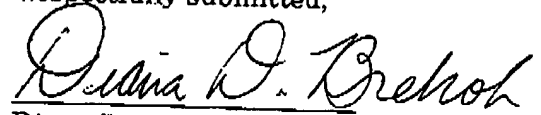
| Independent claim | Claims which depend directly or indirectly from the independent claim |
|-------------------|---|
| 3                 | 2   |
| 4                 | 5, 8-10, 20-23  |
| 16                | 12, 13, 17  |
| 27                | 25, 26, 28, 31  |
| 30                | 29  |

The Examiner has stated that claims 4, 16, 27, and 30 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have done as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 4 formerly depended on independent claim 6, but has now been rewritten with all the limitations of claims of claim 6. Similar amendments were made for claim 16 (formerly depended from claim 14), and claim 27 (formerly depended from claim 24). Claim 30 formerly depended from claim 29, which depended from claim 24. Applicants have rewritten claim 30, including the limitations of claim 24. Applicants request allowance of independent claims 3, 4, 16, 27, and 30 and the claims which depend from them, as listed in the table above.

Based on the foregoing comments, the above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any further amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No.06-1505.

Respectfully submitted,



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